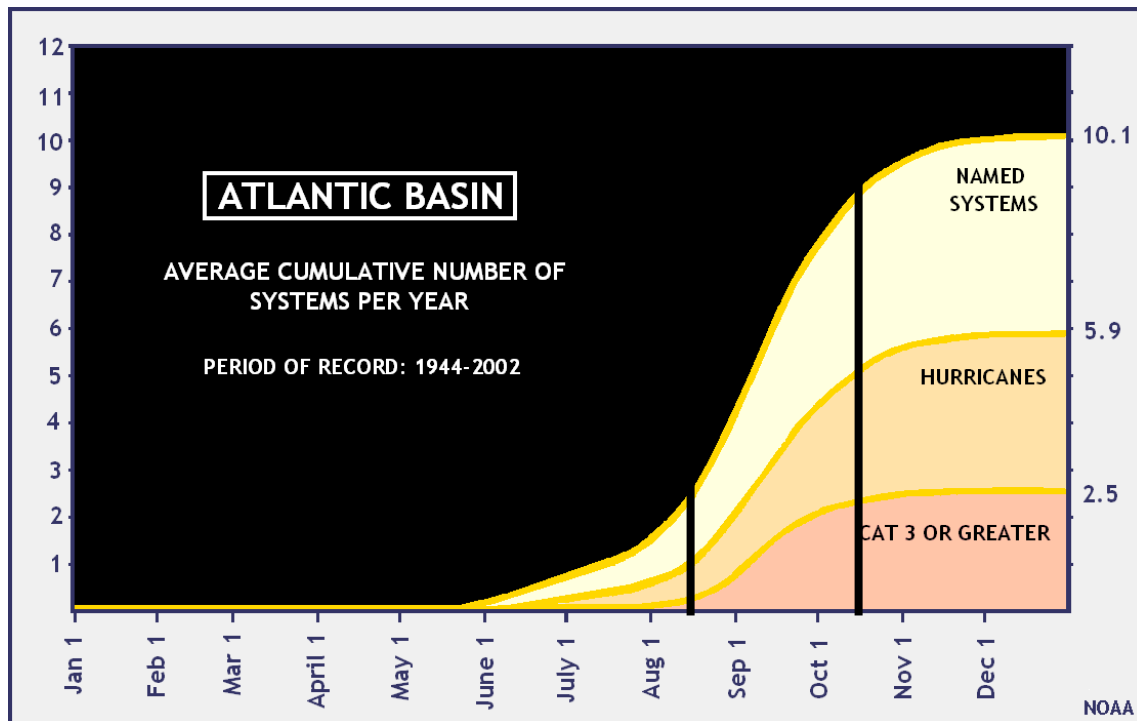


Greetings from your National Weather Service office in Tallahassee!

As we move into the autumn months, our weather will begin to change as more cold fronts frequent the region. But just because we are getting away from summertime temperatures, we can't forget about the tropics. Did you know that September 10th is the climatological peak of the Atlantic hurricane season? As the graphic below shows, the significant bulk of the season occurs between August 15th and October 15th.



Even with climatology in mind, don't forget the season lasts until November 30th. Hurricane Kate in 1985 made landfall just east of Panama City on November 22nd.

The 2007 Atlantic hurricane season has already accomplished several interesting feats. Two category five hurricanes, Dean and Felix, occurred within a couple of weeks of each other. In fact, Hurricane Dean became the ninth most intense hurricane on record in the Atlantic Basin with a 905 mb central pressure as well as becoming the first category five hurricane to make landfall in the Atlantic since Hurricane Andrew in 1992.

One important story, in my opinion, to come out of the 2007 hurricane season thus far is what occurred with Hurricane Humberto. Despite all the tools that we possess, we still cannot precisely predict the movement and intensity of tropical systems. You have heard many times in the past; don't focus on the center of the error cone. Something that may have been forgotten is that in addition to track uncertainties, intensity uncertainties exist as well in the forecast. I like to encourage people preparing for a tropical system to plan for one category of winds higher, in case the storm intensifies more than expected. For example, if the prediction is for a strong tropical storm, prepare for a category one hurricane. If the forecast is for a category three hurricane, prepare for a category four.

## September 2007 NWS-Tallahassee Spotter Newsletter--- Page 2

Hurricane Humberto went down as one of the fastest intensifying tropical systems on record near landfall going from a minimal tropical storm to a category one hurricane in 13 hours.

To stay in touch with the latest on the hurricane season, you can visit the National Hurricane Center page at <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>

Make sure to check out the Tallahassee National Weather Service page at <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/tlh> for more information about the weather in our region.

### New Things on the Way!

Starting September 24, 2007 at 6 am, the National Weather Service in Tallahassee will begin to provide a Graphical Hazardous Weather Outlook. This product will be accessible from our webpage and give a visual depiction on expected hazardous impacts from a variety of weather phenomena. We hope this new product will allow you to better assess threats expected each day across our region. Please visit our webpage to not only view this new product but also view a brief training program. This training program should be available sometime this coming week.

Finally, I would like to present an advertisement about a new observation program in which our weather office will be participating. This program is known as CoCoRaHS. This stands for Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network. This program is starting in Florida on October 1st and in Alabama on November 1st. The advertisement below is offered by Melissa Griffin, coordinator for the state of Florida.

*The Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network, better known as CoCoRaHS, has recently expanded into Florida and is looking for citizen volunteer weather observers here in the Sunshine State.*

*CoCoRaHS, based at Colorado State University and started in 1998, is a unique, non-profit, community based network of volunteer citizen weather observers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and report precipitation amounts (rain, hail and snow). By using low cost and self provided measurement tools and stressing training and education and utilizing an interactive website, the aim of CoCoRaHS is to provide the highest quality precipitation data for natural resource education as well as research applications, because, as we say "every drop counts". CoCoRaHS is already established in 22 states, with more states joining each month- with Florida joining on October 1, 2007. This effort in Florida is especially important given the recent droughts and tropical storms/hurricanes that the state has experienced over the past few years.*

*You can become a volunteer by going to our website ([www.cocorahs.org](http://www.cocorahs.org)) and click on the "Join CoCoRaHS" emblem on the upper right side of the main website. We'll start taking applications for Florida observers on September 24, 2007. Once you're signed up, you can start reporting daily precipitation and see your information displayed on the state map. If you have any questions, you can contact Melissa Griffin or Dr. Pat Welsh for more information.*

*Contact:*

*Melissa Griffin, Florida CoCoRaHS State Co-Coordinator*

*Email: [griffin@coaps.fsu.edu](mailto:griffin@coaps.fsu.edu)*

*Phone: (850) 644-0719*

*Dr. Pat Welsh, Florida CoCoRaHS State Co-Coordinator*

*Email: [pwelsh@unf.edu](mailto:pwelsh@unf.edu)*

*Phone: (904) 620-2756*

Finally, thank you all for being spotters for our region. Next month's letter will focus on our upcoming severe weather season. If you have any questions or comments about this month's letter, please email me at [Kelly.Godsey@noaa.gov](mailto:Kelly.Godsey@noaa.gov) or give me a call at 850-942-8833.

Sincerely,

Kelly Godsey  
SKYWARN Program Leader